



Monthly e-News

For Your Information – January 2012 Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

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The “FYI” is on the Internet at <http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/resources/publications/fyi/fyindex.asp>.

FYI *Monthly e-News*

January 2012

TEXAS UPDATE & OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Texas Gets Approval for Waiver Expanding Medicaid Managed Care

Texas received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Dec. 12, 2011, for a waiver that allows the state to expand Medicaid managed care statewide. This waiver, the Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program, also preserves funding for hospitals, provides incentive payments for health care improvements and directs more funding to hospitals that serve large numbers of uninsured patients.

Under this Section 1115 demonstration waiver, Medicaid managed care will expand into 174 more Texas counties on March 1, 2012. The STAR managed care program will become statewide at this time, while STAR+PLUS will only be in specific counties. STAR+PLUS serves people who have disabilities or who are age 65 or older by combining traditional health care, such as doctor visits, with community-based long-term services and support, such as help at home with daily activities, home modifications, respite care and personal assistance. Numerous events are scheduled in expansion counties to help people prepare for the switch to managed care, as listed at <http://www.txmedicaidevents.com>.

Individuals eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or SSI-related Medicaid and receiving Consumer Managed Personal Attendant Services (CMPAS) will be enrolled in the STAR+PLUS. However, individuals receiving CMPAS at the time of the expansion whose spouses are their paid attendants may choose to remain in CMPAS and will not be enrolled in the STAR+PLUS program. Individuals who choose this option will be enrolled in the STAR+PLUS program later if the spouse stops serving as the paid attendant.

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) applied for the waiver earlier this year as directed by Gov. Rick Perry and the Texas Legislature, to identify innovative, state-based solutions to Texas' health care needs. More details on the waiver are at <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/1115-waiver.shtml>. Additional information on the state's Medicaid managed care expansion is on the HHSC's Medicaid Managed Care Initiatives page at <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/MMC.shtml>.



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Are you registered to vote?

Texas Primary Elections Re-Scheduled for April 3

Because of uncertainty about what maps will be used to determine boundaries for state legislative and congressional districts, **the date for primary elections in Texas was moved from March to April 3, 2012.** There is some speculation that the primary date could be delayed until even longer. The primary will determine which candidates will be on the ballot in November for president, as well as many other federal and state offices. Winners in the primary election will face off in the November general election, which determines who is actually elected to each office. **The last day to register to vote in the primary is currently scheduled for Monday, March 5, with early voting March 19-30.**

Individuals with disabilities in Texas who need help registering to vote, who have questions about the voting process or accessibility, or who feel their rights have been violated can contact Disability Rights Texas via <http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/resources/voting-rights> or call toll-free (888) 796-8683.

A preliminary list of offices up for election is at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/candidates/guide/offices2012.shtml> and includes the president; all 150 seats in the Texas House and all 36 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives (up four because of population growth); one U.S. Senate seat; and half of the Texas Senate. More information on registering to vote and “What’s on the Ballot,” including information on candidates by party, is at <http://www.votexas.org/what.html>.

Redistricting Delays

In December, a San Antonio-based federal court blocked the use of new state legislative and congressional district maps created by the Texas Legislature in 2011, and drew up new maps. Texas is now waiting on a decision about which maps to use. This uncertainty makes it difficult for candidates to run for election and has delayed the filing period and election dates.

Fate of New Voter ID Law Uncertain

A new law passed by the Texas Legislature last year requires voters to present a valid state or federal photo ID to vote in Texas. This bill was supposed to be effective on Jan. 1, in time for the 2012 elections, but that may not happen. The U.S. Justice Department still has to review this law to determine if it would hurt minority voters by making it harder for them to vote. Voters with a disability who have no photo identification can apply for a permanent exemption if the law becomes effective.

Get to Know Your Candidates

The period before elections is an excellent time for advocates to get to know the candidates and educate them on disability issues. Advocates can also make a difference by volunteering for or contributing to a campaign and sending the message that people with disabilities are an important voting block.

Medicare Part D Co-Payments End for Individuals in 6 Waivers

Under the Affordable Care Act, individuals in a Medicaid 1915(c) waiver who are also in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan do not have to make co-payments for Part D prescriptions any more. This change, effective Jan. 1, 2012, affects people in Community Based Alternatives (CBA), Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS), Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP), Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD), Home and Community-based Services (HCS) and Texas Home Living (TxHmL). More information and what to do if asked to make a co-payment for a Part D prescription are at <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/communications/2011/letters/IL2011-143.pdf>.

Interim Study Topics Being Released for Legislative Committees

The Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and Lieutenant Governor appoint Interim Committees between each legislative session to study important issues that help guide the legislature's decisions in the future. These interim committees hold hearings and take public testimony. Their findings will affect actions taken during the next regular session which begins Jan. 8, 2013.

Interim charges for the House were released in the fall, and Senate interim charges are expected in January. Individuals who wish to provide input on any of these issues can submit written comments directly to the committee involved or attend committee hearings.

Information on key interim charges that could have an impact on people with disabilities is on TCDD's website at http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/public_policy/82nd_Interim_Charges_12-15-11.pdf. There are also links for the full lists of House and Senate interim charges, as well as the schedules for committee meetings.

DADS Expands Hours for Reporting Consumer Abuse/Complaints

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) Consumer Rights and Services section is testing the idea of expanding Call Center hours for their abuse/complaint hotline. Intake workers are available to answer calls Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. central time during the six-month pilot period that ends on June 30, 2012. Individuals can also leave a message on a recorder at all other times.

To access the Call Center and report a complaint about the treatment of older Texans and people with disabilities, including people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, who receive services in facilities or from agencies regulated by DADS, call (800) 458-9858 (option 4). More details are at <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/crs/index.html>.

Project Will Help Residents Move Out of San Antonio State Hospital

A pilot project started in January 2012 to help 10 residents of the San Antonio State Hospital move into homes of their choice in the community. The project's goal is to enable long-term residents of state psychiatric hospitals to live independently in the community and prevent readmission. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will fund supportive services under the Project Access State Hospital Pilot, while the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) administers 10 U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) housing choice vouchers. The pilot will continue through 2016, and its results will be used in proposing state-level change in the Texas long-term care and mental health systems.

This pilot is limited to San Antonio State Hospital residents to take advantage of the services available through the Bexar Money Follows the Person Behavioral Health (MFP BH) pilot. This behavioral health pilot provides an evidence-based rehabilitative service, known as Cognitive Adaptation Training (CAT). It enables individuals to relearn daily living skills, establish daily routines, organize their environment, and build social skills. Substance abuse treatment is also available, if needed. This program has had an 87 percent success rate in transitioning individuals with physical disabilities and mental illness from nursing facilities. Participants will also be eligible for Medicaid health care and mental health services through the local mental health center.

Housing Vouchers Help Texans with Disabilities Leave Institutions

Over the past decade, Texas has received 1,564 Category 2 housing choice vouchers for non-elderly persons with disabilities (NED) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs (HUD). These vouchers are targeted to help people in institutions who need rental assistance move back to the community. If one of these Category 2 NED vouchers is returned to the housing authority for any reason, it is supposed to be reissued to another non-elderly person with a disability who is on the housing authority's voucher waiting list.

Housing authorities have until June 14, 2012, to report to HUD that all of these vouchers that they have received are being used by non-elderly persons with disabilities. If your housing authority is listed below, you can contact them and make sure all its Category 2 NED vouchers are being used by non-elderly persons with disabilities, as required. You can also encourage your housing authority to make people with disabilities a priority for different types of housing choice vouchers funded by HUD. Local contact information is at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/tx.cfm>.

A fact sheet on housing choice vouchers is at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet. Details on Category 2 vouchers are at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/ned.

Housing Authority Name	NED Category 2 Vouchers
Amarillo Housing Authority	103
Arlington Housing Authority	175
Austin Housing Authority	36
Corpus Christi Housing Authority	100
Deep East Texas Council of Governments	150
Housing Authority of Corsicana	75
Housing Authority of Dallas	100
Houston Housing Authority	175
Housing Authority of Lubbock	100
Montgomery County Housing Authority	75
Housing Authority of San Angelo	20
San Antonio Housing Authority	75
Tarrant County Housing Assistance	175
Texas Dept of Housing & Community Affairs	35
Texoma Council of Governments	50
Travis County Housing Authority	75
Walker County Housing Authority	45
Texas Statewide Total	1,564

3 Non-Profits Receive HUD Supportive Housing Grants

Three non-profit organizations in Texas received Section 811 Supportive Housing grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in November 2011 to help produce accessible housing, offer rental assistance and facilitate supportive services for persons with disabilities. The grants were awarded to the following organizations:

- **Easter Seals Texas** will purchase 10 condominiums in Austin and make them fully accessible. Applications are being accepted now for these rentals for very low income individuals with developmental and/or physical disabilities. Details are at http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA_wheelchairaccessiblecondos.
- **Spindletop MHMR Services** in Beaumont will construct 14 one-bedroom apartments for people with disabilities located across the street from the Beaumont Outpatient Clinic and adjacent to the Beaumont Hope Center. Since this is brand new construction, it will take at least a year. For more information, contact Jana Fulbright at (409) 839-1046.
- **Tri-County Mental Health Mental Retardation Services** in Cleveland will construct 14 one-bedroom units for adults with a dual diagnosis of chronic mental illness and mental retardation or chronic mental illness, or mental illness and substance abuse. Information on these housing opportunities is at <http://www.tcmhmrs.org/housing-opportunities>.

News Briefs

Toolkit Explains New STAAR Student Assessments

A new toolkit designed for the news media provides resources people can use to help explain the new State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) program for students in third grade through high school. The toolkit includes answers to frequently asked questions, testing calendars, sample test questions and more at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147504081>. New information is also posted on the Texas Education Agency's main STAAR website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar> most days. An article on evaluations for students with disabilities is in the November 2011 "FYI" at http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/resources/publications/fyi/includes/FYI_2011_November.pdf, entitled "TEA Explains New Student Assessments, Accommodations." STAAR testing begins in March 2012.

New Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) Become Effective March 1

The 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) were recently adopted by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) Commission and become effective on March 15, 2012. This building code is basically the state equivalent to the accessibility standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For example, TAS applies to public and private buildings such as government offices, schools, shopping centers, restaurants, and medical facilities. It does not apply to private homes and apartments. The Texas Accessibility Standards are to be applied during the design, construction, additions to, and alteration of sites, facilities, buildings and elements. The standards are online at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/ab/TAS%202012%20Draft.pdf>.

HHSC Posts FY 2012 Operating Budget; CPPP Analyzes State Budget

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) operating budget for fiscal year 2012 was posted at http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/about_hhsc/2012-Operating-Budget.pdf. HHSC submitted it to the Governor's Office of Budget, Planning and Policy and the Legislative Budget Board on Dec. 1, 2011. In related news, the Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) released a report analyzing the state's budget while focusing on areas that are especially important to low- and moderate-income Texans. The report, "*Undermining the Texas Economy: The 2012-13 Texas State Budget*," is at <http://cPPP.org/research.php?aid=1161>.

FEDERAL UPDATE

Medicare to Pay for Obesity Prevention

Medicare will now pay for screening and preventive services to help beneficiaries control obesity and related medical ailments, such as heart disease, strokes and diabetes. More than 30 percent of the Medicare population is expected to qualify for this benefit based on their body mass index (BMI), according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The new benefits include weekly counseling for one month, then counseling every two weeks for the next five months for people who screen positive for obesity. Individuals who lose at least 6.6 pounds may continue monthly counseling for six more months. Individuals who do not lose the required weight in the first six months may be reevaluated one-year after their initial screening to check their current BMI and readiness to change. More details are at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-decision-memo.aspx?&NcaName=Intensive%20Behavioral%20Therapy%20for%20Obesity&bc=ACAAAAAAIAAA&NCAId=253&>.

Congress Passes FY 2012 Budget; Super Committee Failure Heralds Cuts

In mid-December 2011, Congress passed a \$1 trillion spending bill to keep the government funded through September 2012, the end of the current fiscal year (FY 2012, October 2011 - September 2012). This appropriations bill provides funding that is almost level with FY 2011 spending for most domestic programs. It also set the spending level at the rate established in the Budget Control Act that was passed in August and raised the nation's legal borrowing limit. Overall, it represents a 1.5 percent drop in spending from last year. Budget information on specific disability-related programs is available from The Arc/U.S. at <http://www.thearc.org/page.aspx?pid=2926>.

In related news, the Congressional Super Committee failed to reach an agreement in November 2011 on a plan to cut the national budget deficit. This means that deeper, across the board spending cuts of \$1.2 trillion will start in January 2013. Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security are not included in these cuts; however, some members of Congress oppose significant funding reductions to defense programs that are required and have discussed revising that legislation to include these three entitlement programs in the mix for funding cuts. Meanwhile, other government programs that assist people who have disabilities are facing cuts, such as housing, transportation and employment.

Under sequestration, the technical term for the automatic cuts, spending for most discretionary programs and some mandatory items would be reduced about eight percent in FY 2013, advocacy groups said, citing estimates by the Congressional Budget Office.

Definition Developed for Mental and Substance Use Disorders Recovery

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently developed a working definition for recovery from mental disorders and substance use disorders. It defines recovery as:

“A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.”

SAMHSA also outlined four major dimensions that support a life in recovery:

- Health: Overcoming or managing one’s disease(s) as well as living in a physically and emotionally healthy way.
- Home: A stable and safe place to live.
- Purpose: Meaningful daily activities, such as a job, school, volunteerism, family caretaking, or creative endeavors, and the independence, income, and resources to participate in society.
- Community: Relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope.

More details and guiding principles of recovery are at

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1112223420.aspx>.

COUNCIL NEWS

TCDD Hires Grants Management, Public Policy Directors

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD) recently hired **Sonya Hosey** as Grants Management Director and **Jessica Ramos** as Public Policy Director.

Hosey was a TCDD Grants Management Specialist for more than 10 years; her most recent role was as Senior Grants Specialist and acting Grants Management Director. Prior to her involvement with TCDD, she worked for Austin Travis County MHMR (now Austin Travis County Integral Care/ATCIC) for 13 years as a Service Coordinator, Intake Supervisor and Service Coordination Supervisor. She is also Chair for the ATCIC Central Texas African American Family Support Conference. Hosey started her new position with TCDD on Dec. 1, 2011.

Ramos joined TCDD as Public Policy Director on Jan. 2, 2012. Her previous roles include more than three years working in Texas State Senator Judith Zaffirini’s office where she managed health and human services issues. Most recently, Ramos was associate director at the Private Providers Association of Texas, where she was actively involved in various intellectual and developmental disability workgroups.

TCDD Awards Grants for Advocacy Training and 2 Higher Ed Projects

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD) awarded grants for three projects that started recently.

TCDD awarded grants for:

- **A two-year leadership and advocacy skills training program by SER - Jobs for Progress** which expands on a recent project that trained about 300 individuals over three years. The new grant will add a train-the-trainer approach and develop new training materials to provide videos and other resources online, as well as workshops, so SER can reach more people. The project will continue to target minority groups while reaching out to youth, Spanish-speakers, and more community organizations.
- **A five-year grant for a higher education program at Texas A&M University.** This program will include rigorous academic courses and enrichment classes that prepare individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities for a career in human services. It will include a full-year of training plus supervised, field-based experience leading to a certificate and job placement. The project will also create a manual other colleges and universities can use to adopt or replicate the program.
- **A five-year grant to the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to demonstrate how individuals with severe developmental disabilities can succeed in college and obtain jobs.** This project will work with individuals in Hidalgo County who are 18-25 years old to help them attend South Texas College and become employed. Project HIRE (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) will provide focused, one-on-one supports such as educational coaches, individual and family support, and both college and employment readiness. It will also work with local businesses to mentor and support the students, including opportunities for job shadowing and on-the-job-training.

RESOURCES

Census Bureau Releases Data on Kids with Disabilities, Texas Population

More than five percent of school-aged children in the nation's non-institutionalized population had a disability in 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau stated recently. Based on the American Community Survey, it indicated that 2.8 million (5.2%) children had a disability, out of 53.9 million children 5 to 17 years old. More details on children are at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/acsbr10-12.pdf>.

Looking at all ages, the country grew by 2.8 million people between April 1, 2010, and July 1, 2011, reaching 311.6 million, according to a report the Census Bureau released in December. Texas gained more people than any other state (529,000), growing 2.1 percent. This makes Texas the second most populous state, with 25.7 million residents, behind California which has 37.7 million people. More details are at <http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb11-215.html>.

In other news, an interactive map by the Texas Tribune breaks down the 2010 census data by county in Texas, which shows population totals and changes over the past 10 years. The map is at http://www.texastribune.org/library/data/census-2010/?utm_source=texastribune.org&utm_medium=alerts&utm_campaign=News%20Alert:%20Subscriptions.

Helpline Explains Airport Security Process for Travelers with Disabilities

Travelers with disabilities and medical conditions can call a new toll-free helpline before flying to learn about security policies, procedures and what to expect when going through airport screening. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recommends that individuals call the TSA Cares helpline at (855) 787-2227 about 72 hours before flying. This gives TSA time to coordinate checkpoint support with a TSA Customer Service Manager at the airport, if necessary. The helpline is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time, except federal holidays. More information for travelers with disabilities and medical needs is on TSA's website at <http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/disabilityandmedicalneeds/index.shtm>.

Additionally, all travelers can ask to speak to a TSA supervisor if questions about screening procedures arise while at the security checkpoint. They can also contact TSA using "Talk To TSA," a web-based tool that allows passengers to reach out to an airport Customer Service Manager directly, the TSA Contact Center at (866) 289-9673, and TSA-ContactCenter@dhs.gov, where travelers can ask questions, provide suggestions and file complaints.

NPR StoryCorps Recording Personal Stories of Central Texans

Central Texans can record interviews and their personal stories at the StoryCorps MobileBooth which is in Austin until Feb. 5, 2012, as part of a cross-country tour. StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit whose mission is to provide Americans of all backgrounds and beliefs with the opportunity to share and preserve the stories about their lives. Disability advocates can use this opportunity to record personal stories. The mobile recording studio was brought to Austin by KUT public radio station. For more details, go to <http://storycorps.org/record-your-story/locations/austin-tx>.

TCDD Adds More Entries to Internet Resources Web Page

TCDD is compiling Internet Resources at <http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/resources/internetresources.asp>. A summary of resources added this month, including a new section on Government & Legislative Resources, follows:

Local Resource Directories

- **Austin Area:** The Mental Health Education and Support Group Resource Guide at http://www.nami.org/Content/Microsites140/NAMI_Austin/Home130/Support_Groups12/2011mentalhealthresourceguide.pdf is a list of free or low-cost mental health classes and support groups. Compiled by the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Austin.
- **San Antonio Area:** The Arc of San Antonio Resource Directory for Bexar County at <http://arc-sa.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Community-Resource-DirectoryAugust2011.pdf>
- **Dallas Area:** The Arc of Collin, Dallas and Rockwall Counties' searchable resource directory at <http://www.arcdallas.org/index.php/area-resource-directory>
- **Houston:** Family to Family Network' directory of Houston Organizations at <http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org/parent-resources/support-houston>
- **Houston:** The Arc of Greater Houston's General Resources and a Resource Guide for Special Needs at <http://www.aogh.org/Resources.html>
- **Panhandle:** Children with Special Health Care Needs Family and Provider Resource Handbook at <http://unitingparents.cohs.net/Resource%20Book%206th%20Edition%202010.pdf>

Internet Resources *continued*

Government & Legislative Resources

Texas Legislature & State Government

- Texas Legislature Online at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>
- Texas House of Representatives at <http://www.house.state.tx.us>
- Texas Senate at <http://www.senate.state.tx.us>
- Identify Your Texas Representatives at <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us>
Includes the Texas Legislature, Texas delegation to Congress, and State Board of Education
- Texas Office of the Governor at <http://www.governor.state.tx.us>
- Governor's Appointments Office at <http://governor.state.tx.us/appointments>
- Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities at <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/disabilities>
- Texas Comptroller's Window on State Government at <http://www.window.state.tx.us>
- Texas Register at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>
A weekly journal of state agency rulemaking for Texas

Open Government & Meetings

- Open Government/Records at <https://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/index.shtml>
- Open Meeting Announcements for State and Regional Agencies at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/open/index.shtml>
- 2012 Open Meetings Act Handbook at https://www.oag.state.tx.us/AG_Publications/pdfs/openmeeting_hb.pdf
Explains the Texas Open Meetings Act

Congress & Federal Government

- Federal Legislative Branch at <http://www.usa.gov/Agencies/Federal/Legislative.shtml>
Links to the Senate at <http://www.senate.gov>, House of Representatives at <http://www.house.gov>, and agencies that support Congress
- Thomas: Federal Bills and Legislative Information at <http://thomas.loc.gov>
Search for bills before Congress and other information from the Library of Congress
- Government Resources at <http://thomas.loc.gov/links>
Links to Congressional information from official and non-official sources
- U.S. Executive Branch at <http://www.usa.gov/Agencies/Federal/Executive.shtml>
Includes the President and many federal agencies
- The White House at <http://www.whitehouse.gov>
- U.S. Government Printing Office at <http://www.gpo.gov>

State & Federal Advocacy Resources

- Internet Resources for Disability Advocacy at <http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/resources/publications/internetres.asp>
- Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities at <http://www.c-c-d.org>
A coalition of about 100 national disability organizations working together on national public policy
- National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities at <http://www.nacdd.org>
A national association that supports state DD Councils in implementing the federal DD Act and promoting the rights and interests of people with disabilities at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ402.106
- Congress.org at <http://www.congress.org>
A nonpartisan news and information website devoted to encouraging civic participation

Internet Resources *continued*

Federal & State Laws Regarding TCDD; Council Policies

- Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act/P.L. 106-402) at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ402.106
- DD Act of 2000/P. L. 106-402 (PDF version) at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ402.106.pdf
- Texas Administrative Code regarding the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities at [http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=3&ti=40&pt=21](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=3&ti=40&pt=21)
- Chapter 112 of the Texas Human Resources Code regarding TCDD at http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/public_policy/sunset/hrcode.asp
- TCDD Policies at http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/about_us/policies/policiesindex.asp

Conferences, Training and Other Disability Events

Information on conferences, training and other disability events is in the “Training and Events” section of TCDD’s website at http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/training_events/training.asp. *If you would like to suggest an addition to the events list, please send details to Lucy Walker at lucy.walker@tcdd.state.tx.us. Please note, however, that we do not include routine/monthly meetings or support groups in this list.*

Got News? Please send any information you would like to submit for the “FYI” to: Lucy Walker, Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities, 6201 E Oltorf, Ste 600, Austin, TX 78741-7509; 1-800-262-0334 or (512) 437-5415; (512) 437-5434 fax or by e-mail to lucy.walker@tcdd.state.tx.us. We’d especially like to hear about any advocacy opportunities, good resources, websites and conferences, etc.